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# this issue

Polarized Light
Artificial Sunlight for Color
Training Cinematographers in
Russia
Photography of the Month
. . . and other features

August, 1935

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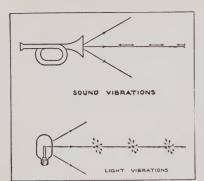


Fig. 1. Sound waves vibrate along the direction of travel; light waves vibrate at right angles to the ray, and ordinarily, in all possible directions.

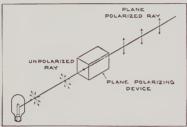


Fig. 2. Any plane polarizing device cuts down the possible directions of vibration to only one; this one is parallel to the vibration plane of the device-

UR eyes respond naturally to differences in color and in intensity of light, and it is by these differences that we are able to see the world around There is another property in which light rays may differ, but our eyes, unaided, can not see those differences. This property is called "polarization," and is concerned, as explained later, with the manner in which the light ray vibrates. Light rays may be polarized by optical devices; they are also partly polarized by reflection from common objects. It also happens that clear skylight is partly polarized. For the last two reasons, much of the light by which we see things is polarized to some extent, a fact we first realize when we look through an Eastman Pala-screen.

#### The Nature of Light Rays

The nature of light has long been a matter of speculation. It was once generally held that perception of light depended upon the reception by the eye of small discrete particles shot off from the source of light; just as at one time it was held that the perception of sound depended upon the impact upon the ear-drum of small particles shot off from the sources of the sound. This theory of light has the advantage that it immediately explains reflections; just as an india-rubber ball bounces from a smooth wall, whereas it will be shot in almost any direction by a heap of stones.

# Photographic

So these small particles would rebound in a definite direction from a polished surface, such as a mirror, whereas a rough surface, such as paper, would merely scatter them. This theory of the nature of light appeared adequate until it was found that it was possible, by dividing a beam of light and slightly lengthening the path of one of the halves, and then re-uniting them, to produce periods of darkness similar in nature to the nodes produced in an organ-pipe, where the interference of waves of sound is taking place. It could not be imagined that a reinforcement of one stream of particles by another stream of particles in the same direction could produce an absence of particles, while the analogy with sound suggested that, just as sound was known to consist of waves in the air, so light also consisted

Light can not consist of waves in the air, partly because we know that it travels through interstellar space, where we imagine that there is no air, but also because the velocity of light, 186,000 miles per second, is so great that it is impossible that it could consist of a wave in any material substance with which we are acquainted. It is, however, supposed that there must exist, spread through all space and all matter, what is termed the ether, and that light consists of waves in this ether.

#### Haw Light Waves Are Palarized

The vibration of a light wave is not along the direction of the ray, as in the case of sound, but is at right angles to the ray and usually in all possible directions, that is, up and down, sidewise, etc. It is possible by various devices to change the light ray so that it vibrates in only one direction, as shown in Fig. 2. This one vibration is not only composed of the one originally vibrating in this same direction, but is also composed of parts of all the others, except the one vibrating at right angles to it. The result is that almost half of the light is allowed through, even though there is only one direction of vibration. It may help to explain this if we draw an analogy.

Imagine a string stretched horizontally, passing through a slit in a card at right angles to it. If the slit is vertical, the string is able to vibrate in a vertical plane only, and if the slit is horizontal, the vibrations are restricted to a horizontal plane. If the card is rotated, the vibration plane of the string follows the slit. Light behaves in much the same way, except that the vibrations require the optical equivalent of a mechanical slit. A light ray in which only one direction of vibration exists is said to be plane polarized, that is to say, polarized in one plane. The plane of polarization, that is, the plane parallel to the vibration of the emerging ray, is definitely fixed in the polarizing device, and is rotated when the polarizing device is rotated. A secand polarizing device, placed in the path of the ray leaving the first polarizer, may or may not transmit the plane pol-

# Possibilities of Polarized Light\*

F. Tuttle and J. W. McFarlane\*\*

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\*\* Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester, N. Y.

arized ray, depending upon its angular position. At one angle, practically no light is allowed through, and the polarizers are said to be "crossed." At 90 degrees from this position, all the light from the first polarizer goes through, and the polarizers are said to be "porallel."

A number of polarizing devices, such as prisms made from crystalline Iceland spar, known as Nicol prisms, have been known to scientific workers for many years. Up till now, there has been no polarizing device suitable for ordinary photography. Nicol prisms are very costly, have a very small field, their length being much greater than their free aperture. The desirability of a highly efficient polarizing device in sheet form has been recognized for some time. Such a material is now available, having the necessary optical properties and capable of being produced upon a commercial basis in sufficiently large sheets at a cost low enough to make it practical in photography. The invention is due to Mr. Edwin H. Land, who was the first to prepare a commercially practical sheet containing a polarizing material oriented properly for satisfactory performance. In this material are countless minute rod-like crystals, which are all parallel to each other. They may be regarded as optical slits, so when the material is rotated, the direction of light vibration is rotated, just as rotating the slit made the string's direction of vibration follow it. The Eastman Pola-screen incorporates this polarizing sheet material, cemented between glass plates. The Eastman Pola-screen is therefore a large polarizing device, free from the limitations of the Nicol prism.

#### The Importance of Polarized Light in Photography

The importance of polarized light in photography is due to the way in which all natural substances reflect polarized

Fig. 5. Clear blue skylight, arriving at right angles to the sun's rays, is polarized. The sky may be darkened by the Pola-screen without affecting the color rendering of foreground objects. The strongest effect is obtained with the camera axis roughly at right angles to the sun's rays.

light. When a ray of light falls upon, for instance, a sheet of paper, the light that is reflected is composed of two parts which are technically known as the specular and diffuse components. The specular component forms what we know as gloss or glare and enables us to see more or less distinctly an image of the source of light. Light reflected from polished metallic articles is almost entirely specular whereas that reflected from chalk is almost entirely diffuse. The diffuse component is reflected without glare in all directions.

Now, if the ray of light that is illuminating our subject is plane polarized, the reflected rays that form the specular component are still plane polarized, but the rays reflected diffusely are not. If we look at the subject through a Polascreen, we can orient the screen so that practically all the specular reflection is stopped, and see the subject by diffusely reflected light. This fact, which is extremely important, permits the many applications described below. The use of Pola-screens in front of the lights illuminates

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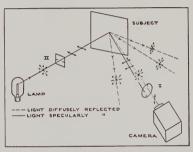


Fig. 3. Photography by diffusely reflected light, using polarizing equipment. Light reflected specularly retains its polarized form; if may therefore be cut out by a Pola-screen at the camera. I indicates a Pola-screen, Type I; II indicates a large Pola-screen, Type II. The indexes on the Vo Pola-screens show their plane of vibration.

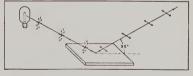
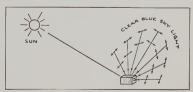


Fig. 4. Ray plane polarized by reflection. A ray of ordinary, unpolarized light is almost completely polarized when specularly reflected at about 32 degrees to any non-metallic surface, such as glass. This permits eliminating oblique reflections from glass and water by a single Pola-screen over the lens.



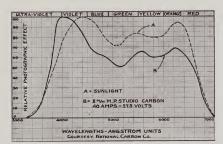


Fig. 1

IGHTING equipment for any system of natural-color cinematography must conform to definite specifications as to intensity, beam-distribution, and spectral energy distribution or color. In this latter requirement is the answer to the question, so frequently asked, why carbon arc lights are so universally used for color cinematography.

Actually, almost any illuminant used in monochrome cinematography can be used for color-filming: but experience has proven the white flame carbon arc to be the most efficient light-source for this work. Almost all color processes take the spectral distribution of natural sunlight as the normal lighting, and balance their emulsions, compensating filters, and laboratory processes upon that basis. Obviously, if the light used to illuminate interior scenes differs in color from this standard, a corresponding degree of modification must be made in either the photographing or the processing of the color-film, if a normal color-rendition is to be had. In general, corrective filters must be applied either to the light-sources themselves or to the camera-a practice which, in effect, results in wasting a considerable part of the light produced. It is much more desirable to employ light-sources which radiate light closely comparable to natural sunlight.

The white-flame carbon arc does this excellently, as will be seen from Fig. 1. Meeting the requirements for intensity and beam distribution is then a matter of designing the proper lamps around this desirable light-source.

When Technicolor prepared to introduce its three-color process, one of the most important steps was providing for adequate lighting equipment. A survey of existing carbon arc lighting units showed that the majority of these units had been in service for ten or more years, and were scarcely adequate to the requirements of modern production. This was especially true of those units used for the general lighting of sets. They did not deliver a sufficient quantity of light for economical use with color cameras, nor did they distribute it with the desired efficiency. In addition. the carbon feeding mechanisms of some of these units allowed a considerable variation in trim during the burning period, resulting in noticeoble changes in both the color ond the intensity of the light emitted. In some instances, this mechanism also produced mechanical noises (aside from the electro-physical noises which can be eliminated by the customary choke-coils and condensers) which could not be tolerated in sound recording.

The fundamental unit used for general lighting is the "side arc" or broadside. Technicolor's specifications for these units called for a lamp capable of producing an illumArtificial

ination level of 200 foot-candles at a distance of 15 feet, evenly distributed over an angle of 60°. Its light should be constant in quality and quantity during the period of operation; it should burn silently; and the light radiated should be of spectral quality closely comporable to sunlight.

Existing lomps completely failed to meet all but the lost of these specifications. Tests showed that such units produced an illumination-level of only 60 foot-candles at 15 feet—slightly over 25% of what was required. The distribution was far from even. The feeding mechanism, in which a single solenoid system controlled both of the lamp's two arcs, allowed variations of from 20% to 40% in light flux during the burning period, and introduced mechanical and electrical noises which were highly undesiroble. The carbon feed was intermittent, rather than continuous in its action. The best that could be said of the lamp was that its light was of the ideal spectral distribution for color cinematography.

The best way of correcting these shortcomings was to design on entirely new lomp. Collaboration with the engineers of the National Carbon Company produced a new type of carbon which gave an even more ideal spectral distribution. The new carbon is 8mm. in diameter, as compared to the 1/2-inch carbons previously used. Burned at the same amperage as the older type (40-45 Amperes), it gives a snow-white light of considerably greater intensity.

Around this light-source, the new lamp, known as the MR Type 29, was designed. A separate mechanism was provided to feed each of the arcs, thereby insuring greater uniformity in the light-flux, and mechanically silent operation. The reflecting system, by virtue of modern design, gave an exceptionally even distribution of light over the required 60° angle. The intensity produced-more than 220 foot-candles at 15 feet-exceeds the requirement by 10%, and the light produced is constant in both quantity and quality. In operation, the lamp is silent, and the spectral energy distribution is almost identical with that of sunlight.

A companion to this broadside is the "scoop," MR Type 27 (Fig. 2), used for overhead lighting. It is identical with the broadside except for the means used for its physical support and the shape of its hood.

For spotlight purposes, the familiar 80 Ampere Rotary Arc spotlight is the most generally used unit. Though it is not, judged by the most modern standards, an ideal unit, it proved adequate for use with color cameras. In most instances, the basic change necessary—fitting fibre gears to silence the feed mechanism-had already been made. Careful attention to maintenance is, however, necessary: pitted and soiled condensers will moterially reduce

# Sunlight for Color Cinematography

Peter Mole
Mole-Richardson, Inc.

the light output, and voriations in the arc gop will alter the spectral characteristics of the light sufficiently to be visible in the Technicalor picture. Mare madern units ore therefore being developed to replace these lamps.

Due to the inherent characteristics of the high-intensity orc, the spectral energy distribution is faund to be considerably higher in the blue than is that of the braadside. For this reason, a straw-colored gelatin filter is used over these lamps in order to mointain the proper color balance.

Where the highest intensities are required, the 24" ond 36" sun arcs ore used. Existing units of this type ore, in the moin, satisfactory for color photography when properly silenced by choke coils and fibre geors, and when fitted with straw-colored gelotins to equalize their spectral distribution.

There is no danger from "kleig eye" with modern arcs, properly used. "Kleig eye" is coused by vorious of the ultra-violet frequencies lying below 3400 A., which con easily be filtered out by plocing a sheet of ordinary lead glass in front of each arc. This is invariably done on Technicalor sets; and since the visible spectrum lies entirely obave 3400 A., the injurious frequencies are eliminated without ony loss of useful light. At the other end of the spectrum—beyond about 7,000 A.—lie the infrared and heat frequencies, which can also prove abjectionable when oh high intensity of illumination is used. In comparison to the current consumed and the light produced, carbon arcs emit less of these high frequencies than ony commanly used illuminant.

All of these lomps may be fitted with special filters and diffusers in order to produce effects necessary far any scene. Gelotin hangers of various calors, for instance, are used far projected color effects, or for isolated effect lightings. Frosted gelatin hongers are used to saften down some lamps. The sun arcs can be fitted with cylindrically lenticulated "diverging doors" when it is necessary to diffuse their light. The broadsides may be fitted with special Foctorlite glass screens, sandblosted on ane side and moulded on the other, for diffusing purposes.

In conclusian, it should be stated that while these new

units have been developed, and the older ones modernized, for use with the three-color Technicolor process, they are essentially adoptable to any canceivable color process. Sunlight will always be the normal light-standard for color photography, for commercial practicability will demand equipment which can be used interchangeably, indoors and out. And far illuminating interior scenes for color, the modern corbon orc lamp is thus far the closest approach to artificial sunlight.

A brief summary of the lighting units most generally used in Technicalor photography, together with notations as to the lamp-type, trim, current and uses, may ot this point be of interest for reference purposes.

A. General Lighting Units.

1. Twin-ac broadside (MR29). Twin verticol trim, duble solenoid feed. Trim: 8mm x 12" copper-cooted studio carbons, positive and negotive. Current: 40 Amperes; 35-40 Valts at orc. Use: general floor lighting.

2. Twin-arc Scoop (MR27). Twin vertical trim, dcuble solenaid feed. Trim: 8 mm x 12" copper-caated studio carbons, positive and negative. Current: 40 Amperes; 35-40 Volts at orc. Use: general overhead lighting.

B. Spatlighting and Madelling-Lighting Units.

1. Eighty Ampere Rotary Arc Spatlight. Ratory positive High Intensity arc, motor feed, condensing-lens spatlight. Trim:  $\frac{1}{2}x'\times 12^m$  80 Amp. rotary spot positive,  $\frac{5}{16}x'$  9" or  $\frac{3}{6}x'$ 9" copper-coated negotive. Current: 73-80 Amperes; 50-55 Volts at arc. Use: backlighting ond spatlighting.

2. Twenty-four-inch Sun Arc (24" diometer mirror). Ratary positive High Intensity arc, mator feed, parabolic mirrar spotlight. Trim:  $16mm \times 18^{2}$  or  $20^{27}$  H. I. Pasitive,  $11mm \times 10^{27}$  pl. cared negative. Current: 135-150 Amperes; 68-72 Volts at orc. Use: backlighting and spatilighting.

3. Thirty-six-inch Sun Arc (36" diameter mirrar). Ratary positive High Instensity arc, mator feed. Trim: 16mm x 18" ar 20" H. I. positive, 11mm x 10" cared negative. Current: 135-150 Amps.; 72 Volts at arc. Use: bocklighting and soatlighting when highest intensity is needed.

Fig. 2





James Wong Howe, A.S.C.

# James Wong Howe —An Uncommon Artist

Harry Burdick

AMES Wong Howe, by big odds, is probably the most colorful cinematographic celebrity of Hollywood. The remote province of Kwangtung, China, gave him birth. Ten formative years of his boyhood were spent on an Oregon farm with foster-parents who are Irish. Match that, if you can, as background for an ace cinematographer.

While engaged in the practice of his profession, he is wholly American. Delightfully democratic and popular, he is "Jimmy" to everyone. He utilizes the same U.S.A. lenses and chemicals and technical equipment as the most rock-bound Yankee.

But you'll note he proudly includes his Chinese surname, Wong, in his signature. And the straight strains of celestial blood that course his veins dictate his theories of screen art.

In other phrases, his mind and his hands are pure American; his eyes and his heart are of China. Plus the item, as Richard Boleslawski aptly puts it, "There's plenty of Irish, too, in Jimmy." Since 1917, when he first captured the images of Mary Miles Minter in his camera on the old Vine Street lot of Famous Players, Jimmy has been giving deep, philosophical thought to his profession. His technique is founded on fundamentals amazingly well-defined, sharply-stated and progressive.

He looks into the immedate future with much hope and contidence for his profession. He feels that cinematography to come will escape from its current emphasis of stereotyped photographic technical perfection and graduate into realms of realism. Prevailing stress on technicalities—of light and balance and exosure—freezes out the humanness and naturalness from finished works. They become too exactly nice, too mechanically perfect, with elaborate studio preparation too evident.

The true artist always conceals the effort. He takes his technical perfection for granted; and it becomes but a means, not the end itself. It is as the concert pianist who plays compositions requiring extreme technical skill and impresses his audience with his exhibition of mechanical deftness, compared with the artist who with no noticeable exertion to divert his audience makes sweet music.

Screened photography, to Jimmy, should never be obtrusive, it should not screamingly clamor for notice. Its perfection should be so unassumingly perfect as not to pull audience attention from the unfolding drama. It should be as a well-dressed woman—reticent, confident, unobtrusive in her appearance. It should not be conspicuous either for being over-dressed nor under-dressed.

Jimmy wants a scene to look humanly and naturally real, rather than being only a demonstration of the scientific perfection attained by chemists. With the new, faster and better lenses, film and lights available, he can see scenes photographed under actual lighting; a candle-lit table actually lit by candles. Giving truthfulness and fidelity of reproduction from life to the screen.

But don't for a moment hold opinion that Jimmy is a radical or a dreamer. To the contrary, he is amply able to deliver, upon request, celluloided images as mathematically accurate as any of his confreres. His recent work "Flame Within" is an instance. The story is placed in apartments and offices that are gems of interior decoration, each piece precisely placed. The cinematographic treatment is in keeping. It is as athough each and every scene had been shot after lengthy consultation with rules and regulations of exposure book and meter. Each is in perfect balance. Each frame of it is technically accurate.

But it is his current work that warms Jimmy's heart and provides scope for his uncanny artistry. It is a circus picture, "O'Shaughnessy's Boy." The majority of scenes are under canvas and it's an actual tent, not a stage set. Jimmy has not exactly designed sets on which to paint mathematically determined shadows. He shoots against that drab gray background and lets the canvas make its own natural shadows.

He has no elaborate superstructure of top lights, and is happy indeed, because he is forced to handle his lighting in a natural, lifelike manner. There's a tendency toward too much back-lighting, anyway, he feels. There's not that much in actual life.

He is letting detail fall away and permitting his coming audiences the enjoyable privilege of using their imagination. He is using no long revealing shots of crowds. Instead he is using close shots, catching the crowds in section; cutting out these sections just as a newspicture camera might.

# Training Cinematographers in Russia

by Vladimir S. Nielsen
President of the Faculty of Cinema Technique,
State Motion Picture Institute,
Moscow, U.S.S.R.

Vladimir S. Nielsen

As Told to a Staff Writer

IFTEEN years ago, there was no Film Industry in Russia; today, the output of the Russian studios is equal, in volume at least, to that of Hollywood. At the close of the Revolution, we had no studios worthy of the name; very little equipment; and but a pitiful handful of artists and technicians. Today, we have 19 modern studios located in various parts of the Union, using increasingly modern equipment, and manned by a steadily growing staff of trained workers. Forty thousand filmhungry theatres clamour for our product: this year, our schedule calls for 300 feature-length productions, with a corresponding number of short-subjects, cartoons, newsreels, and educational films. Next year we must make 600, and by 1937, our schedule must be increased to 900 features. More studios are to be built, more modern equipment obtained, and more artists and technicians trained.

The basic unit of the Russian cinema system is the team of Director and Cinematographer. They work together as co-producers, jointly supervising every detail of production, from story to scoring, and sharing in the film's profits. Their responsibilities—both moral and financial—are very great; therefore we strive to ensure their success by equipping them with a thorough education in their specialties before putting them to work. All our Directors and Cinematographers must be graduates of the State Mociton Picture Institute, exactly as Doctors or Engineers everywhere must be graduates of accepted medical and engineering colleges.

The Russian Cinematographer prepares himself by four years of intensive study at the Institute. The course is difficult, and the standards exacting: less than 65% of those who enter, graduate. But when one has completed the course, we know that he has both the theoretical knowledge and the practical experience to prove himself a thorough master of his craft.

Entering the Institute, the prospective Cinematographer is expected to have an education at least equal to that obtained in a first-class technical high-school, with sufficient theoretical and practical knowledge of photography so that little time need be wasted inculcating fundamentals. He may attend the Institute in one of two ways: paying his own expenses (in which event he must usually spend part of his time in self-supporting work); or he may come on a scholarship from his studio—in which event the studio pays his living expenses, etc.

The curriculum includes composition, principles and history of Art, chemistry, physics, optics, electrical engineering as applied to studio problems, philosophy, and, of course, both practical and theoretical instruction in the details of Cinematographic work. Cinematography students also study some of the basic studies included in the Director's course, while the Directors, in order to understand the work and aspirations of the Cinematographer, are required to take a brief course in the principles of Cinematography. This last also applies to actors, as well, for if they are to appear before the camera, they must know something of the camera and how it affects them.

The Teachers in our Institute are not mere theorists, but practical exponents of what they teach. How else would they have authority to instruct their pupils? The famous Director, Sergei M. Eisenstein, for example, is President of the Directors' Faculty, and spends half the year in actual production, the other half in teaching. I am myself an active Cinematographer, devoting six months of every year to photographing films directed by Alexandrov, Eisenstein's former associate. Edvard Tisse, who photographs Eisenstein's films, is likewise on the Cinema Technique Faculty.

As a graduating examination or thesis, each student of the Cinematographer's course is required to make a short film personally. He must write the story, cast the roles, direct, photograph and edit the production, single-handed. The expense, of course, is borne by the school; after all, what better proof could there be of our teaching, and of the student's ability?



# PHOTOGRAPHY

# of the MONTH

"MAKE A MILLION" (Monogram)

Harry Neumann, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer Daily Variety (June 19, 1935): "Photography by Harry Neumann is considerably above average."

Hollywood Reporter (June 19, 1935): "Neumann's photography is better than average."

The Film Daily (July 9, 1935): "Photography, Good."

"MEN WITHOUT NAMES" (Paramount)

Ben Reynolds, A.S.C., Directing Cinematgorapher

Daily Variety (June 19, 1935): "Ben Reynolds has handled his camera well."

Hollywood Reporter (June 19, 1935): "Reynolds' photography is good."

The Film Daily (June 29, 1935): "Photography, Fine."

"THE GLASS KEY" (Paramount)

Henry Sharp, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer The Film Daily (June 15, 1935): "Photography, A-1."

"MARY JANE'S PA" (First National)

Ernest Haller, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer The Film Daily (June 14, 1935): "Photography, A-1."

"CHINA SEAS" (M.G.M.)

Ray June, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer

Hollywood Reporter (June 24, 1935): "The photography of Ray June tops even his usual high standard. Several of his shots, the lighting on the bridge for instance, should be framed. The storm sequence is a technical wonder."

Daily Variety (June 24, 1935): "Ray June's photography is class throughout."

"HARDROCK HARRIGAN" (Fox)

Frank Good, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer

Hollywood Reporter (June 25, 1935): "Frank Good's photography contributing to sequences that neld a crowded house breathless. It's a workmanlike job throughout."

Daily Variety (June 25, 1935): "Photography by Frank B. Good is particularly effective, especially the underground shots where he has succeeded in giving closeups of tunnel drifting that are both educating as well as thrilling."

Motion Picture Daily (June 26, 1935); "The photography of the great engineering effort by Frank Good is a pictorial delight."

The Film Daily (July 1, 1935): "Photography, A-1."

"BABY FACE HARRINGTON" (M.G.M.)

Oliver T. Marsh, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer The Film Daily (June 19, 1935): "Photography, good."

"SYMPHONY OF LIVING" (Invincible)

M. A. Andersen, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer The Film Daily (June 22, 1935): "Photography, Good." "ACCENT ON YOUTH" (Paramount)

Leon Shamroy, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer Daily Variety (June 27, 1935): "Photography by Leon Shamroy is eye-filling."

"MAD LOVE" (Metro)

Chester Lyons and Gregg Toland, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographers

Hollywood Reporter (June 27, 1935): "Lyons' photography is excellent and given to the right mood."

Daily Variety (June 27, 1935): "Camera sense is vividly evident behind the excellent photography of Chester Lyons and Gregg Toland. Photographic effects and support of suspense is one of the striking elements of the picture."

The Film Daily (July 1, 1935): "Photography, Best."

"GIRL FROM TENTH AVENUE" (Warners)

James Van Trees, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer Hollywood Reporter (June 28, 1935): "The photography by James Van Trees very good."

Daily Variety (June 28, 1935): "Picture has been well photographed by James Van Trees and adequately mounted."

"STRANDED" (Warners)

Sid Hickox, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer Daily Variety (June 28, 1935): "Photography by Sid Hickox is excellent."

"WELCOME HOME" (Fox)

Arthur Miller, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer Hollywood Reporter (June 29, 1935): "Arthur Miller's camera work is eighteen karat all the way."

Daily Variety (June 29, 1935): "Arthur Miller's photography does full justice to the material."

"ANNA KARENINA" (M.G.M.)

William Daniels, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer Hollywood Reporter (June 29, 1935): "Another very special bow to Daniels for his photography."

Daily Variety (June 29, 1935): "Photography of William Daniels is perfect."

"IN CALIENTE" (First National)

Sol Polito, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer The Film Daily (June 26, 1935): "Photography, A-1." Hollywood Reporter (July 5, 1935): "Sol Polito does some minor wonders with the photography."

Daily Variety (July 5, 1935): "Sol Polito's photography is his usual workmanship accomplishment.'

"SPRING TONIC" (Fox)

L. W. O'Connell, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer The Film Daily (June 26, 1935): "Photography, Good."

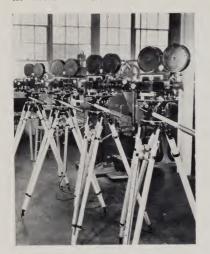
"ALIAS MARY DOW" (Universal)

Joseph Valentine, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer The Film Daily (June 29, 1935): "Photography, Good."

# SENSATION

EASTMAN Super X Film was originally designed for rephotographing projected backgrounds. Yet because of its great speed it also won fame as the negative extraordinary for tough newsreel shots. And now it is being widely used for regular feature production, as well. Offering not only extra speed but generally improved photographic quality, Super X is unquestionably the sensation of the year in 35-millimeter raw film. Eastman Kodak Company. (J. E. Brulatour, Inc., Distributors, New York, Chicago, Hollywood.)

# EASTMAN SUPER X PANCHROMATIC NEGATIVE



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#### "LOVE ME FOREVER" (Columbia)

Jaseph Walker, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer The Film Daily (June 28, 1935): "Photography, A-1."

#### "BLACK SHEEP" (Fox)

Arthur Miller, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer The Film Daily (June 28, 1935): "Photography, A-1."

#### "DINKY" (Warner Bros.)

Arthur Edesan, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer The Film Daily (June 28, 1935): "Photography, Good."

#### "IN OLD KENTUCKY" (Fox)

L. W. O'Cannell, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer Hollywood Reporter (July 1, 1935): "The photography of

L. W. O'Connell is of an equally high standard.' Daily Variety (July 1, 1935): "Excellent photography by L. W. O'Connell."

The Film Daily (July 5, 1935): "Photography, A-1."

#### "ESCAPADE" (M.G.M.)

Ernest Haller, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer

Hollywood Reporter (July 2, 1935): "Ernest Haller's photography equals anything he has ever done."

Daily Variety (July 2, 1935): "Photography of Ernest Haller is a workmanlike job."

The Film Daily (July 6, 1935): "Photography, First Class."

#### "FRONT PAGE WOMAN" (Warners)

Tany Gaudia, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer Hollywood Reporter (July 2, 1935): "Photography by Tony Gaudio is topnotch as usual."

Daily Variety (July 2, 1935): "Tony Gaudio's photography is perfect.'

Motion Picture Daily (July 3, 1935): "The Camera Work of Tony Gaudio is good."

The Film Daily (July 11, 1935): "Photography, A-1."

"SHE" (Radio)

J. Roy Hunt and Vernon Walker, A.S.C., Directing Cinema-

Hollywood Reporter (July 2, 1935): "The credits for the picture lie mainly with the photography of Roy Hunt and Vernon Walker."

Daily Variety (July 2, 1935): "Picture's chief merits belong to J. Roy Hunt for his camera work and Vernon Walker for his striking photographic effects."

The Film Daily (July 8, 1935): "Photography, Fine."

#### "UNKNOWN WOMAN" (Columbia)

Henry Freulich, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer Hollywood Reporter (July 2, 1935): "Henry Freulich's photography is okay.

#### "PAGE MISS GLORY" (Cosmopolitan-Warners)

Gearge Falsey, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer

Hollywood Reporter (July 3, 1935): "George Folsey's photography is excellent."

Daily Variety (July 3, 1935): "George Folsey's photography is swell."

The Film Daily (July 8, 1935): "Photography, Fine."

#### "DON'T BET ON BLONDES" (Warners)

William Rees, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer

Hollywood Reporter (July 5, 1935): "The scenes are short, swift and sure with full advantage taken of the camera's flexibility in story telling. Photographer William Rees has even worked out some split screens to help maintain tempo. Photography top notch."

Daily Variety (July 5, 1935): "William Rees' photography is up to standard."

#### "THUNDER IN THE NIGHT" (Fox)

Bert Glennan, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer

Hollywood Reporter (July 5, 1935): "The photography of Bert Glennon is way above average as is the rule with this canny cameraman."

Daily Variety (July 5, 1935): "Bert Glennon handled the camera effectively."

#### "WHAT PRICE CRIME" (Begcon)

Harry Forbes, A.S.C.. Directing Cinematographer

Hollywood Reporter (July 5, 1935): "Harry Forbes has done some outstanding shadow photography in the opening sequence and the rest of his stuff is first rate."

#### "MURDER MAN" (M.G.M.)

Lester White, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer

Hollywood Reporter (July 6, 1935): "White's photography is okay."

Daily Variety (July 6, 1935): "Photography by Lester White and general technical contributions are of excellent quality."

The Film Daily (July 9, 1935): "Photography, A-1."

#### "SILK HAT KID" (Fox)

Daniel Clark, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer

Hollywood Reporter (July 6, 1935): "Daniel Clark's photography and production standard."

Daily Variety (July 6, 1935): "Photography up to standard."

The Film Daily (July 9, 1935): "Photography, Good,"

#### "DRESSED TO THRILL" (Fox)

Rudalph Mate, A.S.C., Directing Cinematographer

Hollywood Reporter (July 6, 1935): "Rudolph Mate gave the sequences a fine photographic interpretation.'

Daily Variety (July 6, 1935): "Photography of Rudolph Mate is excellent."

# BALANCE YOUR LIGHT



AT THE SOURCE

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#### Photographic Possibilities of Polarized Light

Continued from Page 331

the subject with plane polarized light. Another such device at the camera lens permits photographing by the diffusely reflected light alone, as is shown in Fig. 3. This is desirable in many cases, because the specularly reflected light or glare obscures more or less the detail that it is desired to record. It is obvious from Fig. 3 that if the Pola-screen at the camera is rotated, some of the specular light will be allowed to pass through, so that the amount of reflection permitted is under the control of the photographer. When the camera Polascreen is rotated so that its polarizing plane is actually parallel to that of the specular ray, this ray is transmitted even more freely than is the diffuse ray, so that the subject appears to have even brighter reflections and more gloss than it actually does have.

Plane polarized light, or light that is partially plane polarized, is very common in nature, so that the photographer who is equipped with a Pola-screen only on his camera lens finds that he has rather considerable control over contrasts in his subject, even though he is unable to change the lighting of his subject. There are two sources of polarized light in nature: (1) Light rays from a clear blue sky, arriving at right angles to the sun's rays, are strongly polarized (see Fig. 5); when this same skylight is specularly reflected from water, etc., these reflected rays are also polarized. (2) Ordinary, unpolarized light, specularly reflected from any nonmetallic surface at about 32 degrees to the surface, is strongly polarized by the act of reflection (see Fig. 4). There is some effect at other angles, but more at zero or 90 degrees.

These two sources, separately and in combination, polarize much of the light from natural things. Unaided, our eyes do not detect polarized light, and so we have not seen until now that much of the light from our surroundings is polarized. Many natural things, seen through the Pola-screen, assume a new and strange beauty.

These effects can be photographed easily with a Pola-screen over the lens alone. It will pay the photographer to view his subjects, both in the studio and outdoors, through a Pola-screen, while rotating it to see the effects.

#### Properties of the Pola-screens Useful in Motion Picture Work

Pola-screen over lens alone—(1) Reducing polarized skylight to bring out clouds and other objects: A very dark sky can be obtained in color photography by this means which is impossible to achieve otherwise. The effect is greatest at right angles to the sun's rays. Therefore, at

sunrise the region of greatest effect is north-overhead-south; at noon-near the horizon in all directions; and at sunset north-overhead-south again. The arc swings from overhead to the west during the morning, from the east to overhead in the afternoon, passing through every part of the sky.

Ordinary objects, faces, blossoms, trees, mountains, buildings, etc., can be made to stand out against the sky in a very beautiful manner. If desired, the brightness of the sky may be increased relatively to objects photographed against it, by rotating the Pola-screen to the appropriate position. In black-andwhite photography, the Pola-screen can serve as a filter of variable depth-anything from red filter effects (without distortion on tone values) down to one filter effects may be obtained by rotating the Pola-screen to the desired posi-

(2) Changing the contrast of various parts of a subject, without changing the lighting: This effect is very marked in the case of the walls and roofs of buildings, sunlighted water, and pavements from above.

(3) Photographing subjects in water, from above: When the angle between lens axis and water surface is about 32 degrees, all reflections from the water surface are eliminated. Reflections may be removed to some extent at other angles, but not at zero or 90 degrees.

Photography through glass or other transparent media: As in the case of water, at 32 degrees from the surface, reflections can be completely removed. This effect can be used to produce double exposures by placing a thin pellicle mirror in front of the camera lens at the required angle, and rotating the Pola-screen at the lens. The image reflected by the pellicle mirror appears or disappears according to the angle of the Pola-screen. Other more obvious applications will suggest themselves, such as photography of aguaria, through windows, and so on.

- B. Pola-screens over both lens and lights.—(1) Subduing specular reflections from metallic and other glossy objects: Metallic reflections can not be eliminated entirely, but can be subdued very greatly. Reflections from most other objects can be eliminated if desired. The Pola-screen over the camera lens is crossed with those over the lights for the greatest effect.
- (2) Increasing specular reflections: Articles may be made to appear unnaturally glossy. The change, while considerable, is not as great as that possible in the opposite direction. The polarizing cells are used parallel.

- (3) Increosing color soturation: By removing the surfoce reflection, which is white, the colors of an object increose in their saturation, that is, their purity. The crossed arrongement produces such effects.
- (4) Effects upon foces: The crossed position produces a strange motte effect, with no luster whotever, and the focial colors are exaggerated. The parallel position has the opposite result—a very perspiry oppearance, with the colors subdued
- (5) Photographing wet objects: The sarface reflections from wet objects, such os clinical specimens, present o severe problem, os they hide detail. These reflections may be subdued os desired, or eliminated ot the crossed position.
- (6) Copying matte prints, pencil stetches, newsprint reproductions, ond spointings: Motte prints reflect light specularly in all directions. When this specular component is removed the blacks of the print become much blocker, so that the use of crossed Polascreens produces a brightness range in the print that is even greater than that of a glossy print viewed in the normal monner. Likewise, the reflections can be removed from pencil graphite and ink particles, producing intense blocks.
- (7) Animation cells: Reflections from cells used in animation work build up with successive loyers so that controst is seriously affected, limiting the number of cells which may be used. These reflections may be greatly reduced by the crossed arrongement of Polascreens.
- (8) Bi-refringent crystals and fibers: The phenomenon known as birefringence couses any transparent object, possessing the property, to light up, frequently in vivid color, when placed between two crossed Pola-screens. Cellophone, silk, cotton wool, and many natural crystals have this property.
- (9) Stroined glass and celluloid: Any stroined transporent medium disploys bi-refringence, and when placed between crossed Pola-screens, shows o strain pattern.
- C. Applications in Lighting and Printing.—The varioble transmission of two Pola-screens together suggests a number of possibilities. Two Pola-screens meant for lens used together constitute o voriable neutrol density filter, which may be of interest in making fodes in some coses. The arrangement can be used as an intensity control in a printer, and has the merits of simplicity; moreover, it does not cut down the area of the beam.

Two light-source Pola-screens together can be used for controlling spotlight intensity. Cellophone added between these units introduces various color effects.

Various lightings are possible with one Polo-screen over the lens and others at the lights. It is possible to place a bock light so covered directly in the comero field. It is olso possible to control the light reflected from any light so covered. A control, at the comero, is thus provided. It is therefore possible to photograph the same set with two cameras and obtain quite different lighting effects.

#### Technical Data

The Eastmon Polo-screens hove a spectral range of polarizing power from 400-700mu. They absorb in the ultraviolet, and transmit freely, without polorization, in the infrared. They can be domoged by excessive heat, by placing them within a few inches of a lomp bulb, or imaging a lomp filoment upon them.

The most suitable negative materials are the ponchromotic materials now in general use. While it is possible to use the Polo-screens with orthochromotic or even with non-color-sensitized materials, the exposure increase is very much agreater.

The exposure increase, for the Polascreen over the lens olone, is about four times. For Polo-screens over both lens and lights, the exposure increase is ten times and upwords, depending upon the nature of the subject. When using a photoelectric type of exposure meter, the Polo-screen for the lens may be held over the meter window at the intended angular position of the Polo-screen. The meter should olways be used at the some angular position, as some of these meters ore slightly polorizing in their sensitive element.

If colibrated ongular scale is desired for repeating and recording settings used for Lens Polo-screens, the following is suggested:

			Scale	
		Angle	Fig.	Effect
Parollel	position	0	0	Increosed
				gloss
		45	1	Neutrol
		60	2	Decreos-
				ed gloss
		70	3	"
		76	4	"
		80.5	5	"
		84	6	"
		86.5	7	"
Crossed	position	90	8	"

The intervals of this scole will be of equal effectiveness in cutting down the polarized light entering the Polar-screen.

The Pola-screens hove a slight scattering power, so that those for lens use must be screened from all extraneous light by a proper lens hood. The Polascreens supplied for light-source use are not suitable optically for lens use

The novelty of this subject mokes it difficult to say just what application will be of most value in motion picture work. It is, however, a new tool, by which new effects may be achieved, and its limitotions are imposed only by the imagination of the user. We are indebted to Mr. E. H. Land for help and suggestions, and to Dr. L. A. Jones for the demonstration film of polarization phenomenon in crystolline structure.

#### James Wong Howe

Continued from Page 334

His close-ups are decidedly interesting. Seldom do they show the chorocter's entire face. One may be cut off just above the eyes, another cut off ot the side. For close-ups, only that focial oreo from eyes to chin are of volue to Jimmy, mainly the eyes. So why make portraits of the style set by ortists of centuries back?

As with all great artists, Jimmy has creative courage; he dares to do. He has a scene where two choracters discuss their feor of the circus tiger. Instead of placing his characters in front of the tiger's cage and coming in with a close-up of them, he moved his characters for oway from his camera, backed against the tent sidewalls. And with his lights,

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threw a dark shadow of that tiger restlessly pacing to and fro against the gray background. The characters tell of their fear and unknown to them, but very much knawn to the audience, the object af their fear is stalking in shadow above them. The scene holds intense dramatic volue.

Jimmy believes in phatographing scenes, rather than talking people. He believes in photographing his story, rather than sets and actors. He believes in showing bits of action as they appear in life, not on studio stages.

He doesn't work by set formulae. He is na rubber-stamp. On a recent tour through the galleries in Europe, he noticed the old portrait painters, the old masters so-termed, had all dane their subjects in studios with a north light coming dawn at a forty-five degree angle over the artist's left shoulder. Of hundreds he saw, anly three had light from the right. Jimmy's artistic heart fairly cried aloud for a portrait done with a sauth light, from any angle other than forty-five degrees and not coming over either shoulder of the portraitist.

His wark is definitely tempered by his ancestry and his study of Chinese art. In China a splash of color and a line or two creates a flower. A few deft lines creates a mountain. He never clutters up his negative with multitude of detail, just because a thoughtful producer has furnished them in event of their being desired.

James Wang Howe, thanks to his birth and training, is an uncommon artist. He has so fully mastered the mechanics of his profession as to realize their importance and to let them rest there. With such instruments, he sets forth to make pictures that relate story, that unfold drama, that are true and lifelike, that are not phatographically conspicuous, that are highest expression of art-life.

To him, with his consummate artistry and the searching philosophy of life he has inherited from the earth's oldest civilization, Jimmy's professional future holds limitless promise.

And, between pictures, in this rousting community called Hollywood, what do vou suppose he does for pastime? He goes to Chinatown and talks Chinese philosophy in his own native tongue with fellow countrymen merchants. And he travels, on business. To see nature and life, and to file those scenes in his mem-

ory to be used someday. Cinematographic works by James Wong Hawe rate an appraising and absorbing eye. They invariably possess the inherent charm and appeal of a Ming

### Training Cinematographers in

Continued from Page 335

Graduating from the Institute, the student goes into the field as a fullyqualified First Cinematogropher. In the Russian Cinema, we recognize four definite classes of Cinematographers: those who are worthy of making the best and greatest films; those assignable only to what you call "programme pictures"; thase suited to short-subjects and comedies; and those fitted for newsreel and similar non-dramatic filming. The salaries the men receive, incidentally, are dependent upon their classification, with the men capable of turning out the best work reaping the largest rewards. Students at the Institute who fail to graduate become Second Cinematographers -or Operatives, as you call them here.

It is during these years at the Institute that the majority of our Director-Cinematographer "teams" originate. They are not formed by compulsion; we realize that a Cinematographer (or Directar) may be able to do brilliant work with an understanding partner, while he would be only mediocre with an unsympathetic confrere. Let us say that I, as a Cinematographer, am a romanticist:

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1848 Larchmont Ave., Chicago; 11 W. 42nd St., New York; 716 N. LaBrea Ave., Hollywood; 320 Regent St., London (B & H Co., Ltd.) Est. 1907. clearly, I could not do my best work with o Director whose ortistic ideas tended toward surrealism. Therefore, I choose o Director whose ideals are similar to my own. Once formed, these combinotions ore seldom broken, though either porty is free to join o new portner if he feels that such a change would be beneficial. Whotever complaints may orise ore odjudged by the officiols of the Cinemotogrophers' Association, just os in this country they would be judged by the Boord of Governors of the A.S.C. The decision is finol.

Once o teom-mote hos been selected, the Cinemotogropher shoulders his full shore of responsibility for the production. The two, together, choose the story ond supervise its odoptotion: eoch scene is corefully planned for dramatic and photogrophic volues-often, the script is broken down into sketches of each ongle and set-up, so that when the time comes for filming, everything is a known quan-

The Director and Cinematographer plon the budget ond schedule together, ond submit it for the opprovol of the outhorities. As a rule, the overage budget for a feoture film is about 700,000 roubles; ond the outhorities ore very generous in the motter of schedules, reolizing that some films necessorily require more time thon others: schedules moy ronge from o few weeks to o year or more.

Once the budget ond schedule ore opproved, the necessory money and other focilities are placed at the disposal of the Director and Cinemotographer, and filming begins. The sole requirements ore that they odhere to the story submitted, stoy within the ollotted budget, ond deliver the picture on the doy they hove promised to. Otherwise, their honds ore free; and since they themselves have mode the budget ond schedule, they ore expected to know their business well enough to estimote them occurately.

The Cinemotogropher, in addition to directing the photogrophy of his film, colloborotes with the Director in the "Montoge," or editing. We have no film-editors in Russio: if o Director con't cut his own film, we do not think him worthy of being o Director.

When the picture is releosed, the Director and Cinemotographer usually with the scenorist and musical composer, participote in its profits, dividing between them 3% of the gross receipts. This percentage can often be a very sizeable sum: "Chopoyev," one of the most successful of recent films, hos grossed 22,-000,000 roubles; I, myself, in the lost two months before I left Russio, received over 12,000 roubles from films I had photographed.

Like those of your American Comeromen who ore under controct to the vorious studios, the Russion Cinemotogropher receives his salory throughout the

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year. There is, however, no rigid compulsion that he must rush from one production to the next; he is expected to work as continuously as possible, but to select stories that will enable him olways to do his best work.

By law, our production-units are forbidden to work more than seven hours

per day, except on occasions when the entire troupe expresses a wish to work longer in order to complete a scene or sequence.

Each Cinematographer receives a twomonth vacation each year. One month of this period is his own, to do with as he will; the other, he is required to be in Moscow, attending the Institute, in order to keep abreast of the latest developments of his Art. It may be mentioned, incidentally, that if he works in one of the more distant studios, and chooses to vacation at some resort which will take a long time to reach, his travelling-time is added to the vacation, so that he gets his full time of rest.

Technically, our Cinema Industry in Russia is not too greatly different from vours in America. Our studios are similar, but rather more durably constructed of concrete and steel, since we had the advantage of building them from nothing, and recently. Like you, we use Incandescent lighting almost exclusively, though we have arcs for those who want them. Most of our lighting units are European; many are Russian-built. Until quite recently, we used only Agfa film, but of late we have been importing quite a bit of Eastman's excellent product. A Russian film-factory has been established, and produces some ponchromatic film, though not as yet in sufficient quantity to meet all our needs.



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#### Chas. Stumar Passes

• Charles Stumar, A.S.C., ace cameraman with the Universal Studios, was killed instantly on June 29th when his plane smashed up at Calabasas, California, where he was attempting to land with Harrison Wiley, art director, to inspect a location for a scene in "Storm Over the Andes" which he was currently photographing.

Stumar left a wife, also a brother, John, who is one of the directors of cinematography at Columbia studio.

Among some of the recent pictures on which Charlie Stumar worked are included "Werewolf of London," "Transient Lady," "Manhattan Moon" and "Mr. Dynamite "



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# AMATEUR MOVIES

August, 1935 PRICE 25c

# this issue

Common Sense Filiering
Tricks With Negative and Positive
Making a Tripod Head Yourself
Expedition Films
Cine Story Telling
... and other features



# HOW TO GIVE YOUR MOVIES EVERYTHING A FILM CAN GET

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# AMATEUR MOVIE SECTION

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# PROFESSIONAL Criticism of the Amateur picture is a part of the service offered by the AMERICAN CINEMATOGRAPHER. Many are not aware of this. Hundreds of pictures have been reviewed this post year by members of the American Society of Cinematographers for the Amateur.

#### Next Month . . .

• We will tell you samething about editing. You have finished a full summer of shaating. There will be much faatage an hand that will need cutting and editing. Editing is possibly more impartant at times than the actual shaating far the praducing of interesting films. Of course a clever editor can make an interesting film aut of practically nothing by the right kind of cutting and the proper editing and sometimes by the shoating of an additional scene or two.

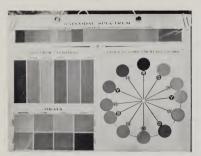


Fig. 1

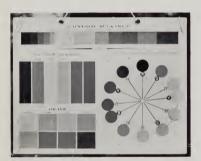


Fig. 2

SE o Filter!" seems to be the favorite phrase af ninety-nine out of every hundred writers on omateur cinemotogrophy. Experts, semi-experts ond quosi-experts olike, they oll harp lovingly on the phrase, as though the use of a filter were a ponocea for all the ills that beset amateur cinematagraphy. It's oll very well meant, but often rather canfusing to the fellow with on amateur cine-comera. There seems to be such a bewildering arroy of filters-and each writer boosts his personol pet filters, regardless of whot his fellow-scribes may favor. "Use a K-2!" odjures ane-"Always a 'G'!" soys onather-"A 23-A is best!" advises a third-"A 2x for best results!"--"An X-2 is perfect!"--and sa on, 'till the poar reader is as dizzy os a dervish. And as if that weren't enaugh canfusian, the various makers of filters-especially those catering to the omoteur trade-are equally vogue in their methods of designating their products. Between them oll, experts and manufacturers tagether, the paor maviemaker is so bewildered that, in self-defense, he throws oway his filters and swears never ogoin to wander into such a maze

The most unfartunate part of the whole situatian is the fact that filters, rightly used, con be of tremendous benefit to the photographer or cinematographer. But we must separate the bunk from the facts—substitute understanding and comman-sense for ignarance and blind faith. We must

# When You

know definitely what filters da, and why they da it, if we ore to know when and how to use them.

A photographic calor-filter is, in the first place, a bit of colared gloss or gelatin ploced between the film and the object being photographed. The mast convenient way to da this is to fit the filter into a mount that can be attached to the lens. But what does this bit of tinted gloss do—how and why does it work?

Ta understand this, we've got to know something about the noture of the films we use. To put it simply, a filmaf any type-cansists of a strip of celluloid which forms a base to hold the picture, and a coating of gelatin in which is mixed a rather complicated chemical compound af silver, colled the "emulsion," and which is sensitive to light. The whole science of phatagraphy is based on the fact that certain chemical compounds containing silver are chemically changed by exposure to light. Even before the invention of phatagrophy itself, physicists observed this phenamenon; and they also observed that the action of light upon these campaunds was in direct ratia to both the intensity of the light, and ta the color of the light. Over a century ago, far instance, Sir Humphrey Davey noticed that such compaunds were quite strongly offected by blue light, and hordly changed ot all by red light. For over three-quarters of o century, phatographic emulsions mointoined this preference; then certain researchers discovered that they could produce emulsions which were not quite sa calor-blind, as they were somewhat sensitive to yellow ond green light, tao; optimistically, they colled their new emulsion "Orthachromatic," from twa Greek wards signifying "true calar." Mare recently, they have learned haw to make their emulsions "see" red light, os well; and they called this product "Ponchramatic," os it is sensitive to all colars.

Naw, translating these facts into terms of photography, an Orthachromotic film sees red as black, green as a very dork grey—almast block—yellaw os a light grey, and blue os so pale o grey that it is virtually white. Not at all the way our eyes wauld see the same colors! A Panchramotic film, an the other hand, approaches the interpretation of our eyes much closer: the red is still the darkest, the blue is a moderately dark grey, and the yellow is guite a light grey. Fig. 1 shaws haw o typical Panchromatic film (Eastman regular Panchromatic) interprets a set af standard colars.

That is all well enaugh—but often we may want to change this far one reason or ather. Sa we use a color filter, which, as its name implies, filters out same of the light. Since the filter takes away part of the light, without putting in anything to replace it, we must increase our exposure to compensate for the lost light. This gives the colors which pass through the filter a chance to wark mare strangly, and gives us a well-exposed picture, in which the weeker colors have registered more strongly than usual,

# Filter Use

## Common-Sense

William Stull, A.S.C.

RED FILTERS: lighten reds greatly, orange and yellow even more, darken blue strongly, and have relatively little effect on greens.

GREEN FILTERS: lighten greens considerably, darken red, and leave blue and arange unchanged, though yellow is lightened.

These facts apply ta all filters of these respective colors, regardless of the make or name: however, the darker the color of the filter, the mare pranounced its action—and incidentally, the greater must be the increase in exposure to compensate for the filter.

Now to apply them to practice!

Suppose we have a landscope, with nice, fluffy clouds against a blue sky in the background, and a girl wearing a yellow dress in the foreground. We want to make the girl stand out against the green grass, and we want the white clouds to stand out against the blue sky. Ordinarily, the yellow dress would be a little lighter than the green grass, but the intense blue of the sky would phatagraph almost white, and we would lose the clouds. So we can use a yellow filter: the girl's dress will become noticeably lighter, and the sky will darken enough to make the clouds stand out rather well.

But suppose we want to carry this farther: a red filter will darken the sky much more—even making it almost

Continued on Page 364

and are accordingly shown in lighter tones in the completed picture.

Since the very earliest emulsions were overly fond of blue light, the first color-filters were made of yellow glass, which—according to the color-density of the glass—held back the blue, and often the invisible, but photographically powerful, ultra-violet. These filters helped, for they made the blue parts of the picture darker, and showed the yellows more nearly as the eye sees them, as a light shade; they also lightened the greens somewhat. They act the same way, though to a different extent, with Panchromatic films. Fig. 2 shows the action of a medium yellow filter (the Wratten "K-2") with this type of film. You can see that the red is still very dark, and the yellow has become quite light, while the blue is noticeably darker; both orange and green are also appreciably lightened.

But, suppose we want either to make the reds lighter, or to darken the blues—what then? A deeper yellow filter, which, of course, halds back more of the blue light, will darken the blue—but it won't change the red very much. But, remember, the yellow filter made the yellow photograph lighter—so why wouldn't a red filter lighten the reds? It will! Fig. 3 shows what a rather heavy red filter (the Wratter F, No. 29) will do. The red has changed from black to a light grey; orange and yellow are almost white; green is slightly darker—and the blue has become a very dark grey.

Now, suppose we want to make the green lighter? Clearly, neither a yellow filter, nor yet a red one, will do the trick. What will a green one do? Fig. 4 shows us; it was made on the same film, with a medium green filter (the Eastman "X-2"). The reds have become much blacker, blue and orange are virtually unchanged, yellow is still quite light—and our green has at last become a very light grey.

From all of this, we can make out the fallowing facts about filters, which can give us the key to almost any filtering problem:

YELLOW FILTERS: lighten yellows considerably, also orange and green to a lesser extent; darken blues, and leave red virtually unchanged.

Fig. 3

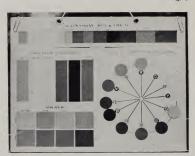
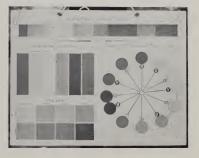


Fig. 4



This wipe off effect swings in from each corner as arrow indicates wiping automobile off with wooded scene.

HEN the Children of Israel marched through the Red Sea in "The Ten Commandments," it was the "traveling matte" system of trick photography that made the shot possible. A miniature shot was made of the watery canyon through which they were to march; then a separate shot of the marchers, against a plain black background. From this latter negative, two special mattes were made, one, which we can call the "negative matte," in which the moving figures were sharply silhouetted against a clear blank field, and a complementary "positive matte." in which the field was opaque while the figures were clear. The final scene was made in two printing operations: first the background was orinted through the negative matte. which left the spaces occupied by the actors unprinted; next, the figures were orinted in through the positive matte, which shielded the background, but let the figures print through normally.

Of course, while a shot like that could conceivably be made in 16mm., it isn't quite the sort of thing that the average amateur would find useful in his own pictures. Besides, getting an opaque matte from an ordinary negative requires some rather tricky developing and intensifying. But the travelling matte idea can liven up any home movie by putting in "wipes" and similar orofessional effects.

All that is necessary is a camera, a title-board, and a good printer. To get the best results, you really ought to do the laboratory work yourself; but as you will seldom be dealing with scenes more than ten feet long, this is a simple matter. Of course, all of this presupposes the use of negative-positive, though once you've gotten your hand in, you could make dupe negatives from reversal-film shots and use the dupe like an original negative.

To begin with, let's take the simplest sort of "wipe-off," and see how it's done. Scene A is on the screen; scene B appears at one side of the frame, and pushes A off to one side as scene B moves in. First, we make a matte. We set up the title-board with a WHITE card in place, and shoot the required footage of that; then we take a dead BLACK card and slowly slide it in from the side while the camera grinds; and we continue to photograph the black card until the footage for scene B has run out. This photographing, incidentally, is best done on positive film, which is cheaper—and more contrasty. For developing the matte, we need a developer which will give extreme contrast, so that the black areas will be obsolutely papague.

# Traveling

think Eastman's "D-9" developer is about the best. Here's the formula:

#### Stock Solution A

Stock Solution A.	
Water (about 125° F.)16	ounces
Sodium Bisulphite	ounce
Hydroquinone3/4	ounce
Potassium Bromide	ounce
Cold Water to make32	ounces

#### Stock Solution B

STOCK SOLUTION D.	
Cold Water32	ounces
Sodium Hydroxide (Caustic Soda)	ounces

Cold water should always be used when dissolving the caustic, as considerable heat is involved. Solution A should be stirred thoroughly when mixing with Solution B, to avoid precipitation. For use, mix equal parts of A and B, and develop two or three minutes at 65 F. Wash the film thoroughly between development and fixing to prevent stains and chemical fog.

So far, we have only one of the two mattes we need—the positive one, which protects the first scene. To make the negative matte, we simply make a print from the matte we've just made, and develop it in the same developer for maximum contrast.

In making our "wipe," the first thing to do is to determine a definite starting-point in the raw positive, in our two negatives and in our two mattes, notching the edges of the film at this point, so they can be registered easily. Then we place Matte No. 2—the"positive" matte—in the printer. Over this, we put the negative of the first scene and, last of all, the raw positive for the print. The matte must never be between the negative and the positive, for this would throw the print out of facus.

After the first scene is printed, the positive film is rewound, and the "negative matte"—the one we made first, which begins totally opaque—is out in place. The matte, the negative of the second scene, and the positive film are aligned by means of the starting notches we marked, so that the two halves of the wipe are printed "in step with each other."

After printing through the second matte, the wiped scene is complete, and the positive is developed in the usual manner. The same succession of operations is, of course, followed in all types of travelling matte trickery.

Naturally, these basic wipes can be made in any direction—up, down, right, left or diagonally.

The next type of wipe is logically one made with two black cards which open or close like sliding barn doors, pulling apart from the center of the frame, or closing the same way. These wipes, too, can be made to go in any direction, and by varying the shape of the cards, quite a variety of effects can be had. For instance, if the two cards are cut with V-shaped notches in their edges, the effect will be a diamond-shaped iris-in or out.

Another interesting wipe, made with two cards, is made

# Matte Tricks with 16mm Negative

Paul Lerpee, A.S.C.

with the black cards dividing the frame either vertically or horizontally, and moving in opposite directions. If, for example, they move horizontally, the top half of the first scene will start wiping off at, say, the right side of the screen, while the bottom half will start at the left side, and the halves of the second scene will move in these two directions

By using three cards, we can vary this to good effect. For instance, we can begin by having the left-hand third of the scene wipe upward; as soon as this is done, the center starts to wipe downward, after which the last strip wipes upward.

Another useful wipe is the type which moves fan-wise. The simplest of these is made with a single black card, which is pivoted at one corner of the frame (usually the lower right) and swung down into the picture. The true fan wipe is, of course, made with two black cards which are pivoted at the bottom center of the frame, and swung in or out together. If they swing in, scene 2 will wipe in from the edges, like a Japanese fan folding; if they swing out, scene 2 will appear in the center, and spread out as though the fan were opening. In the latter case, we would change our method a bit, beginning our matte shot with the black cards in place, and using the negative matte for the first printing.

A variation of the fan wipe is to pivot the two cards at the lower corners of the frame, and work them in together. You could also pivot one card at the bottom center, the other at the top center, and revolve them in opposite directions.

If you want to carry this idea through to its logical conclusion, use four black cards, pivoting one at each corner of the frame, and swing all four of them in together. This is a bit tricky to do (it really takes two very cooperative people to manipulate the cards well), but it gives a very interesting effect.

The "melting wipe" has been used very interestingly in several professional films. It can be made quite easily, too, in 16mm. You simply place a pane of clear glass in front of the white card, with a little V-shaped trough along the

> At top you have the first printing in which the city scene is being wiped off. The next photo the city scene is being wiped orr. The next photo is the second printing showing the matte opening and the country scene being wiped on. The bottom is the finished positive print with the city

top. In this trough put some dark, rather heavy oil, and tilt the trough so that the oil runs out all the way across the top edge of the glass. Gravity will do the rest, for as the oil runs down the glass, it will run irregularly, and give you the melting matte you want. Two things you will have to watch out for: first, that your lights are set where they won't reflect in the glass or oil; and that the oil is black enough to be opaque. Sometimes you can use crankcase drainings from your car; otherwise, you can use any heavy machine oil. "Three-in-One" and similar household oils are too light; they would flow too quickly. Incidentally, if you can't get oil that is black enough, mix in some lamp-

Continued on Page 362







scene partly off and the country scenes partly on, wipes are fanning from bottom center.



Photo courtesy Hancock Expeditions

Six tons of fighting sea elephants caught by Swett's camera at San Benito Island.

# People Want to See His

WO thausand people jammed the theatre.
Three thausand more—outside—turned away far lack of seats.

On the screen, a matian picture. A silent film, without stars. A 16mm film. To be exact, a programme of educational 16mm pictures.

And audiences like them! Only this spring, in Quita, Ecuadar, an impatient audience swept through a palice cordan and riated into the theatre to see the shaw. And while such a display of enthusiasm is rather above average, even for these films, mare-than-capacity crawds are the rule wherever the Hancack Pacific Expedition films are shawn.

At the same time, educational and scientific authorities—who do not always see eye to eye with lay audiences on such matters—bestaw upon these films their highest appraval. Some of the phrases used by distinguished and canservative educators would excite the envy of a professional press-agent.

I don't need to paint out that such a combination is rare. Quite a few expeditions have brought back films af mare ar less scientific value; a few have brought back films that managed to tickle the public fancy; but in most cases, scientific occuracy is achieved at the cast of audience apathy—or vice-versa. The great majority, trying to please both factions, succeed only in displeasing both.

But when I asked W. Charles Swett, who phatagraphs the Hancack Expedition films, what was the secret of making such remarkable films, he was quite sure there was no secret! "We film our pictures in a simple, straightfarward fashian; edit them so that each picture tells its stary completely; and then we try ta present them as pleasingly as we know how," he told me.

"Captain Hancack's cruiser, the Velera III, was built especially far scientific explanation. On her cruises to the

Films

Karl Hale, A.S.C.

seldam-visited corners of the Pacific, we carry with us specialists from the leading universities and museums of the country: an the last cruise, for instance, the Smithsonian Institution, the University of British Calumbia, the University of Michigan, the University of Nebraska, and the University of Sauthern California were represented. They carry on their researches; I film their wark and the results. Under such circumstances, ane cauld hardly ga wrang an the purely scientific phases of the filming.

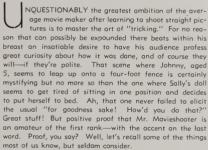
"Due to the nature of our work, we've found it best to make aur pictures with 16mm equipment. Most of the time, I have to work in places where there simply isn't roam far a larger camera. Sometimes, in filming the seals at Galapagos, I have swum and waded a hundred yards ar sa, camera in hand, ta reach a vantage paint far a needed shat. A standard camera—even ane of the sa-called 'hand cameras'—would be utterly out of the question.

"Then, taa, I aften have ta shoot quickly—or lase a scene I've been seeking far years. When twa twenty-faat see elephants are fighting it aut a dazen feet fram yaur lens, yau haven't time to waste setting up tripads ar plugging in battery-cables!

Continued on Page 360

# These Things Called "Tricks"

Ed Ludes



Perhaps one of the greatest examples of professional trickery was braught to the screen in "The Invisible Man." "King Kang" was another, more pretentious example, and, proving complete trickery in feature length productions isn't new, we submit "The Lost Warld."

"There," you cry, "doesn't that prove that tricks are in good taste?" We agree, af course. We're not trying to say that tricks should not be attempted. It's the MAN-NER in which they are presented that irks us.

Take the abave mentioned pictures for example. In no instance did the story serve the trick. On the other hand, without exception, the tricks served the stary. difference? Because these stories were so fantastic audiences could not help but wonder how they were photographed, BUT, (and this makes the difference), shortly after the picture started, the audience lost interest in the photography and became absorbed in the story. Theatre audiences would resent paying admission to see a lat of unrelated camera tricks as an evening's entertainment except, possibly, in the shartest of shorts. Tricks are nathing new to them and cannot hold interest for any length of time without story support. Your modern theatre audience (of which you are a part) is pretty blase. Why, then, expect your guests to be different when seeing your pictures? They'll be polite, of caurse, but you can't amaze



them sincerely by pure trickery. Sa what to do about itgranting that tricks ARE all right IN THEIR PLACE? The answer is simple.

If Johnny MUST jump four feet and land on a fence give him a reason for doing it. Have the stary concern some TARZAN PILLS which he accidentally finds as buried treasure in the back yard. With this as a reasan, you can let him do any number of tricks—to the amazement of the rest of the neighborhood kids and the amusement of vour quests.

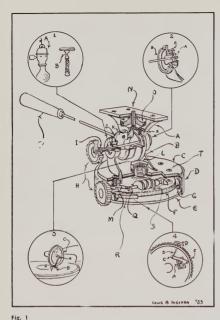
Take the case of Sally's dall. A very interesting picture could be made out af some such idea as this:

Scene apens with Sally changing the dress on her doll. A Fairy Tale baak is praminently by Sally's side (highlighted, if possible, to make it praminent). She finishes dressing dally and sets her at her side in the position in which the doll is to be left. Then she picks up the story book and starts to turn the leaves slowly and thoughtfully. Either dissolve, or cut to a closeup of Sally turning the pages. A very few feet of this then change the angle shooting aver Sally's shoulder at the leaves of the book. Sally stops turning at a picture of a fairy tauching a little girl with her wand (Cinderella and the fairy would da nicely). Allow time far the audience to grasp the idea then cut to a medium shot of Sally as before, with her still looking at the picture page. She loaks up with a far away look and turning ta Dally says:

TITLE: "I wonder if Dolls have Doll Fairies . . . " Cut back to Sally as she finishes speaking then turns back to her baak. She closes it. Change angle slightly and show Sally yawning. She turns to Dolly again and says:

TITLE: ". . . Goadnight, Dolly."

A lang shot gets Sally out af the picture. Then, with another dall dressed as a fairy, your animation begins and only ends when your patience is exhausted. But you have given a reason and stary to your trick. AND THAT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ENTERTAINMENT AND BOREDOM.



EFORE I begin describing the construction of this easily assembled amateur pan and tilt head, I want to state here that there is no more fascinating pastime for the amateur than that of building his own movie accessories, especially when the equipment is derived from unique odds and ends such as are easily found around the home and workshop. No special tools or materials are required for assembling such homemade articles because substitutions may easily be made for parts not easily available

This pan and tilt head, the construction and assembly of which I am about to describe, has completely satisfied my most rigid requirements. It is rock-steady in performance and affords the photographer smooth working panorama and tilt movements with quickly available controls for locking the camera in any desirable position. Variable tension facilities make it possible for one to set this head to suit his own particular needs, and, as far as looks are concerned, it can be easily mistaken for a product sold at

Aside from the commonplace tools found in the home workshop the following list of tools will also prove useful: one tap and die 1/4" U. S. S. 20, one tap and die 8/32 M. S. S., hack-saw, file and hand-drill.

Before mentioning the materials used, I want to impress upon my reader this fact, and that is, the following list of materials is a list of what I found most handy around the home. In building this tripod head you will find that substitutions for parts you may not possess are easily made.

# Making

The following is a list of the odds and ends I employed in the construction:

- 1. An old brass gear-wheel (F).
- The metal base of an old alarm clock (A).
- An old phonograph pickup head (Insert No. 3).
- 4. An electric socket shell (top part only) and neck (brass) of a safety-razor (Insert No. 1, A and B).
- 5. An old-style Edison pickup device (Insert No. 2. B).
- 6. Nickel-plated rear bell panel of a discarded alarm clock (D)
  - Bakelite panel (C) and radio knobs (H).
  - Tire valve head and nut to fit.
  - Brass yoke joint found in junk yard (B).
  - 10. Telephone knurled knob joint (O).
  - 11. Aluminum (N) from an old frying pan.
  - 12. Pancake flipper handle (P).
- 13. Miscellaneous small bolts as found in a boy's Erector set.
  - 14. Pieces of scrap brass.
  - 15. Heavy base of an old electric fan (E)
  - Rear panel of a clock for brake rim (G)
  - Cap from a phonograph needle supply well (K).
  - A worm gear from a boy's Erector set.

As my readers' equiment and materials will vary from the above list I will undertake only to outline the assembly of this tripod head rather than go into any detailed account. Alterations of design are easily effected as may be noted from the diagram. In fact, if desired, the whole pan locking mechanism (Insert No. 4) may be done away with if a gear wheel to suit is not easily found.

My first step was to construct the base of the head. In the center of the gear-wheel a hole was drilled large enough to admit a sawed-off tire valve-head which was bolted to the fan base weight E. The bottom of the base was then filed smooth. Insert No. 4 shows the construction of the panorama lock mechanism. D is a lead shoe well soldered onto the moving rod B. The brass arm C, actuated by the engagement of the tooth A and the worm gear, causes the brake shoe to work back and forth slowly and powerfully through a hole drilled in the side of gear-wheel E. This shoe locks the panorama movements when it presses against the rim G which is permanently bolted to the fan base E. After some experimentation. I found that a strip of adhesive tape placed on the inside of the rim G pre-

# a Tripod Head from Odds and Ends

The two brass uprights were bolted to the gear-wheel after a suitable position of balance had been determined. But before doing so, two openings were cut into the bakelite panel C and bell panel E so as to admit the two brass uprights. This constituted the outer covering of the panorama works and was fastened to the gear-wheel by four bolts well supported with four short pieces of bross tubing os shown at M. By this means the bell panel D just cleared the top of the worm-gear. A small perfume bottle cap. L. hid from view the nut and spring adjustment of the base. Underneath the base E o standard camera-mount thread was tapped into the small hale of the tire valve.

I have tried to make all the above explanations as brief and simple as possible because a careful scrutiny of the cross-sectional diagram will clear up any dubious or questionable points which may come up.

In conclusion, may I suggest that in going about constructing this amateur pan and tilt head, you first determine what available materials you hove at hand and then conform your subsequent construction as close as possible to that as shown in the cross-sectional digaram.

Louis A. Inserra

vented any slipping of the lead shoe-brake. A spring and bolt adjustment L controls the tension of the pan movement. This completes the actual construction of the base proper, and, as I stated before, the base construction can be simplified by doing owoy with the locking device entirely, although, in my case I found this feature o necessary adjunct to good movies.

The construction of the tilt part of this tripod head offered a more complex problem than did the above base construction. After experimentation, I found that the safety-rozor neck, I, fitted snugly into the threoded port of the electric light socket shell, J. Both of these parts are shown in Insert No. 1 at A and B. The cross-sectional digarom shows how these two parts were bolted to one of the brass uprights. Through the piece I a hole 8/32" was bored large enough to admit the shaft onto which was fastened a knurled knob.

The opposite end of the shaft was threaded to fit a small circular plug as shown at A in Insert No. 2. Insert No. 2 illustrates the old Edison pickup head permanently secured into a corresponding brass upright by the bolt C. Bolt C also permanently secures plug A. This completes the assembly of the uprights and fixed portions of the tilt assembly

The revolving parts of the tilt mechanism consist of the cap of a phonograph needle well K bolted to the phonograph pickup. K fits snugly over the flange of J, thereby affording a perfect revolving friction movement. The top plate assembly was bolted onto these two parts, as shown at lead filling X. The top plate N was cut and shaped from an old aluminum frying pan. This was bolted to the clock base A in which a section was removed to admit the knurled knob O. The diagram clearly illustrates all of the above assembly.





At top the completed tripod head as described Inserra. A professional looking job. At bott the author using his tripod head with an 80





# Cine Story-Telling Pays

Walter Blanchard

NTIL Gus brought out his projector, I had been having a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Gus ond I are gaad friends; and he had been telling me about his vacation in Honolulu, which is a place I've always wanted to visit. Even when he threaded up the film, I still had some hopes, for if all he had been telling me was true, he had a chance far some marvellaus shots.

As the prajector started to hum, Gus began his monologue: "Here we are leaving part—that's Tillie, Uncle Ezra is just behind the lifeboat, and Aunt Maggie is just out of the picture . . . That's a little girl we met on the boat; she's awfully cute, even if she doesn't look it . . . This is Honalulu-I'm afraid I panned rather fast an that, but it's really very pretty there . . . Here we are at Kilauea—Yes, that's Tillie beside the car, and the other two are same school-teachers that we met in the hotel. I

wish you could see the fire-pits at night . . . Now we're at Waikiki beach-Tillie made this: don't I look funny? You ought to see the surfboard riders there; we made a shot of them, but it was on the end of the roll, and we lost it . . . Oh oh! That's where Tillie stopped me as I was about to shoot the hula-dancers! . .

Ten reels of this, and a beautiful friendship had crumbled. I wanted to see what Hawaii was like-but all Gus showed me was a collection of miscellaneous shots of chance acquaintances that even he will never see ogain, and that nobody could possibly core a hoot about. Every time he had come to something that I reoily wanted to see, there would either be some unspeakable oaf clowning in front of the lens, blotting out the reolly important view or Gus would apologize that he had run out of film just then. If he ever wants to shaw me any more of his films, he'll have to show me a Supreme Court order-and then call out the police.

And I'm not the only one who has suffered through such an evening. There are thousands of cinefilmers like Gus at large throughout the world. No one is sofe from them-or their miscegenate films.

And it is all sa completely unnecessary! One-half of one percent of ordinary common-sense applied to the shooting of vacation-films would do the trick.

After all, why da we make such pictures? Isn't it becouse we feel that the cine-camera can tell the story better than we can ourselves? Then-why not let it tell the story properly?

But don't get me wrong: when I say "story," I don't mean that home-movies should all be built around an involved plot, with heroes, heroines, villains and the conventional fadeout clinch! That isn't it, at all. When I tell you, "I visited Yellowstone," and then proceed to describe the geysers, the bears, and the other things I saw, I'm telling you a story; if I'm a good story-teller, my story can be just as entertaining as any fictioned romance.

One of my friends, who is a famous Cinematographer, is fond of saying, "Art is not what-but haw." In other words, it is not so important whot sort of a story you tell with your cinebox as how you go about telling it.

And there is a story in everything that is really worth filming. In vacation-films, it may sometimes be where you go, or it may be what you are daing. In either case, the way to put the story on the screen is to decide at the start whether the story is a "where" story or a "what" storyand then to shaat your scenes accordingly. In a "where" story, the "what" is of very minor importance-and vice-

Gus' trip to Hawaii was a "where" story if there ever was one. Therefore, to tell it properly, he should have let his camera show us Hawaii-poking its lens into all the unique beauty-spots, and showing us, not the taurists (who are the same everywhere), but the Hawaiians: how they live, and dress, and dance; how they eat poi and raw fish and ride surfboards. He can film his wife and the rest of the tourists at home; if he simply can't avaid making a few shots of these pests while he is vacationing, he can ot least have enough respect for good cine-narration to cut them from the reel before showing it to anybody.

Now—since Gus and his films are both imaginary let's suppose he and his camera went on a fishing trip somewhere. In that case, his story would be a definite "what" story. Where he went wouldn't be nearly so important as what he did. If you were to ask him questions



### WHFFI S

## OF INDUSTRY

#### New Lights

 Rell & Howell Company has assumed exclusive photographic market distribution of the Aplanatic Reflectors for photoflood bulbs which are manufactured in Los Angeles and used extensively in the Hollywood studios. The reflectors distributed by Bell & Howell are small, compact duplicates of the big studio reflectors and comprise a complete line of the sizes and types best suited to amateur movie making and still photogrophy.

The mirror-like chromium surface of the Anlanatic Reflectors consists of many facets, each of which reflects the lamp's filoment, with full intensity, toword the subject. The degree of concentration or spreading of the light beam mov be controlled by moving the reflector backward or forward on a sleeve encasing the lamp socket.

Reflector bowls 51/2 inches and 71/2 inches in diameter have wire clomps inside the bowl which slip over a lamp bulb in existing home fixtures. These are called Snap-on Reflectors.

There are Hand-Clamp Reflectors in three sizes-71/2 inches, 81/2 inches, and 12 inches. A powerful, rubber-covered, spring hand clomp holds the reflector firmly to a chair bock, table edge, or window sill. A ball-ond-socket joint between clamp and reflector permits the lights to be directed as desired.

The three reflectors listed above may be hod with folding stand rather than hand clamp. Stands for accommodating one and two reflectors are offered.

#### New Exposure Meter

· A new photo-electric exposure meter in which sensitivity to light has been increosed more than three times over previous models has just been announced by the Weston Electrical Instrument Corporation, Newark, N. J. It will be on the market within the next few weeks, according to present plons, and will be sold at a lower price.

The new meter extends the determination of accurate exposure settings independent of eye-judgment to the lower brightness levels commonly encountered in photographing interiors, in home photography under artificial light, and in candid camera work. The widened scope

of photographic possibilities resulting from the use of super-sensitive film and high-speed lenses, using such settings as F 2 and 1/10 second, is matched by the light-sensitivity of the new instrument. However, it is soid to be more compact and more simple to operate than those previously available.

A feature of the meter is the redesigned light-value indicator, which accommodates on o single scale a range of brightness values in which the maximum indication is 4000 times the minimum. This is occomplished without sacrifice of legibility by spacing out the divisions at the lower end of the scale where exposure determination is most critical. The movement of the needle over the scale is of sufficient magnitude so that it need not be held close to the

Universal application of the meter to all types of still and motion picture cameras is provided by means of an openface reference dial including aperture settings from F1.5 to F32, shutter speeds from 1/1000 second to 100 seconds, and a range of film speeds from 1 to 64 (Weston rating). Simplified arrangement of the new dial gives a more rapid and convenient indication of "normal" exposure. However, a complete indication of the film-density range available for any particular photograph is also shown at o glance, so that the photographer who wishes to depart from "normal exposure" to meet exceptional light conditions or to distort tone values for artistic effect has all the information required.

Light entering the meter is restricted to that within the usual lens angle by means of a new type of cell window of alass in the form of multiple lenses, a method which transmits a considerably greater proportion of the light than is possible with the baffles previously standard for this purpose.

The photo-electric cell used in the new meter is of the same "dry plate" type first adapted to the photographic exposure problem by the Weston oragnization. The increased sensitivity of the instrument has been obtained without sacrifice of permanent electrical characteristics, according to the manufacturers, and the reaction of the cell to light of various wave lengths is such that exposure data for color photography is accurately indicated.

#### Prices Reduced

 It is announced by Victor Animatograph Corporation, that the following projector price reductions will become effective on August 1, 1935.

Victor Model 10 Regular (500-watt), which previously listed at \$149.50 with No. 9 carrying case, will be reduced to \$132.50 complete with No. 8 Elite center-opening case.

Victor Model 20 Super-HiPower (750watt) which heretofore listed at \$187.-50 with No. 8 case, will be reduced to \$148.00 with No. 8 case.

These reductions have been attributed to a tremendous increase in demand which has made it possible to effect substantial reduction in production costs. Continued on Page 364





#### 16MM SOUND-ON-FILM **PROJECTORS**

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The Bass Sound-on-Film Library is growing daily. Service within radius of 1000 miles daily. Servi of Chicago.

Write for further information on any or all of the above instruments. Catalogs free on request. Also Bass Rental Catalog is yours for the asking.



Camera Headquarters for Tourists

#### PEOPLE WANT TO SFF HIS FILMS

Continued from Page 354

"There is one fortunate circumstance. though, in the fact that most of our films are made in the Galapagos Islands. There, the wild life is not only extremely interesting to the biologists, but it hasn't been spoiled by too much contact with men. The animals (and birds, too) simply don't know what fear means: we can walk right among them, and make pictures to our heart's content. If we get too close, they simply move a foot or so to let us by! As a result, I make most close-ups of the seals, sea elephants, and so on, with a 15mm wide angle lens. Even for the most difficult shots, such as scenes of seals or sea elephants fighting in the water, I have never used a telephoto lens; I have a nice collection of them, but the longest I have ever had to use is a simple 2". I don't believe in tele-lenses for this work, anyhow; they make you use a tripod, sacrifice depth of focus, and restrict you in a dozen ways you can't put up with if you want the best pictures.

"As to film, we use regular reversal film, and when we want prints, we have a cuplicate negative made, and print from that. The latitude of reversal stock, combined with the marvellous control the better laboratories have in their processing, have proven invaluable to me, for many of my most important scenes have necessarily been made under the most unfavorable light conditions. Often I'll catch a shot I've been trying to get for three or four years-a shot that must be made in one special way, or else be worthless -- under conditions where only the finest of film and the best of processing can turn the scale from failure to success.

"When it comes to editing the film, we have to be very careful—and merciless. Each of our pictures has a definite story to tell: the capture of a sea elephant; birds which cannot fly; snakeheaded lizards; catching the huge 'sea devil,' or manta ray; the birth and education of a seal. Each must tell its whole story in one reel-400 feet. It must tell that story accurately, completely, and interestingly. There's always so much to tell that we can't waste even a foot of film for anything that isn't germane to the story. That means we must disregard all temptations to include this shot or that for mere prettiness, or because it may be of personal interest

"There, I think, is one of the greatest faults of most travel and semi-educational films, whether professional or amateur. It's quite understandable, too: if you've photographed the picture, it's awfully tempting to include shots that are actually unimportant, simply because they are your pictorial pets, or because

you remember how you sweat blood to get a difficult scene! It is really an advantage to have someone else edit vour film. When it comes to editing our pictures, while I participate, Emory Johnson, who was one of the most skillful of silent-picture directors, is officially the Film Editor. He can keep his heart stony where I, who filmed the scenes, couldn't! After we feel the picture is completed, it must still pass inspection by a jury of the expedition's scientific experts.

"As a rule, our films are first shown with only well-made main titles, for they are shown with a lecture in which the speaker explains things as the film progresses. This not only gives us the assurance that the films will be properly presented, but also gives us a more intimate understanding of how audiences react, and what explanation they want

"In building our programs, which are presented without charge, we try to make them both entertaining and instructive. Wherever possible, the Hancock Expedition films are presented with the Velero Ensemble, a musical organization composed of Captain G. Allan Hancock, as leader and 'cellist; John Garth, pianist and entomologist; Arthur Jensen, violinist and collector; Sterling Smith, flutist and collector. They present forty-five minutes of classical and semiclassical music-ensembles, solos, duets and trios. After this comes forty-five minutes of pictures; three or four different subjects, usually arranged on a single 2,000-foot reel. In this way, we provide a really well-balanced programme that doesn't try to force information down the audience's throat.

"Completely titled prints of most of our films are also available to schools and educational institutions for the bare cost of printing. The only proviso attached to this by Captain Hancock is that such prints must not be exploited commercially."

When Swett showed me some of his films, I had no trouble at all in understanding why there are more requests for these films than can be complied with. Based on better than average technique, they are not mere sugar-coated "education"; they are remarkable entertainment. One film, showing the birth and education of a seal, achieved what no other medium could, in presenting the birth of a seal in a wonderful, yet altogether natural way which robbed that delicate subject of all its unapproachable phases. There was, incidentally, not a single human shown in the entire reelyet one was never for a moment conscious of their absence, or bored by being "taught something about seals." Another reel, showing the capture of a two-ton sea elephant, contained some of

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Surely, here is a camera coupling a wide range of studio effects with 16 mm. economy. Yet, so many and varied are the fields which have enlisted the aid of the "Special," that the instrument shop in which it is fabricated has introduced several new accessories to even further widen its usefulness.

Some of these are shown and described below. Others, highly specialized, do not warrant adoption as standard accessories. Rest assured, however, that either the basic model or an adaptation will perform any task of picture making within the scope of 16 mm. cinematography. You are invited to submit specifications.

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THE OPTICAL FINDER The Optical Finder corrects parallax, can be calibrated for all focal length lenses from 15 mm. wide angle to 6-inch telephoto, shows the correct field from infinity down to two feet. Price on request.

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ACCESSORY LENNES Besides the standard J.19 lens for the "Special," where are available a 20 mm, J.35 lens, 15 mm, J.2.7 wide angle lens, and a new series of four telephoto lenses. Due to the introduction of an adapter, made in three types—for the "Special," Ciné-Kodak K, and for 16 mm, cameras using the standard thread—these telephoto lenses are interchangeable on most 16 mm, movie cameras. The minimum focusing distances embossed upon them can be about halved by an exclusive and most important feature available to contract that larger images may be obtained at closer working distances—and when this is done only visual focusing with the "Specials" reflex finder should be employed. Here are the reduced distances and with the first of the contract of field obtained.

	Minimum Focusing	Width of
Lens	Distances	Field
2 -inch f.3.5		11/8 inches
3 -inch f.4.5	241/2 inches	21/4 inches
 41/2-inch f.4.5	39½ inches	3% inches
6 -inch f 4 5	57 inches	23/4 inches

The prices of these new design telephoto lenses, evolusive of adapters (which are priced at 86.50), are 838.50 for the 2-inch f.3.5 and the 3-inch f.4.5 lenses, \$53.50 for the 4/2-inch f.4.5 lenses, and \$78.50 for the 6-inch telephoto lense—showing the substantial saving effected by the introduction of this independent adapter lens system.

LENS EXTENSION TUBE OUTFIT Specialists in certain fields will desire to work at still closer ranges without enlisting the aid of microscopes. To fill this need the Lens Extension Tube Outfit has been introduced. Here are the minimum fields which can be covered by using these tubes:

Lens	Minimum Width of Field
1 -inch f.1.9	
2 -inch f.3.5	
3 -inch f.4.5	
4½-inch f.4.5	
6 -inch f.4.5	
The Extension Tube Outfit is sold as	a complete unit-flange, and four

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the most thrilling shots imaginable—magnificent close shots of a battle-royal between two of the beasts. In this film, of course, the human element was evident: but although the human cast included scientists of world-wide renown, not a single scene called attention to them as personalities. Animate instruments in the capture of the sea-giant, yes; but as conscious actors, never. There was not one close-up!

"Don't you ever make intimate shots of the members of the party at play?" I asked.

"Of course," was the reply. "But we cut them out and make a separate real for our personal pleasure. We may matter to ourselves; but audiences at large—what do they care about who we are, or what we look like? All that matters is what we do!"

#### Traveling Matte Tricks with 16mm Negative

Continued from Page 353

If your camera is equipped with a single-frame stop-motion movement, you can make a number of other interesting mattes by animation. Ordinary 16mm cameras can often be persuaded to expose only one or two frames at a time; so if you have a very light touch on the trigger, you may find it possible to make some of these mattes even without a regular single-picture movement.

First of all is the disc effect. This is most easily done if the title-board can be stood on end, so that the card is level, Take a number of black cardboard discs, and, when you have made the required footage of the white card, stop the camera, and drop one of the discs in. Take a few more frames, stop again, and drop another disc in-and so on until the entire field is blanked out by the overlapping discs. Don't bother to out the discs in regular order: half the charm of this effect is through the irregular appearance of the discs, scattered all over the field. You can do the same thing with cut-out musical notes, or any sort of cut-out shape that fits the picture.

Another stop-motion matte is the veneticn-blind effect. This is made by beginning with half-a-dozen or more block lines across the white frame. After two or three frames, the camera is stopped, and the lines widened a bit. As the lines grow wider and wider, scene 2 will spread itself into the picture exactly as though you were looking through a shutter that was being opened.

You can also divide the frame into cuarters, and animate alternate squares in, checkerboard-fashion. For instance, say you animate in the upper left and lower right quarters: the left one would animate up from the center, while the right one animated down. When they reached the edge of the frame, the animation could continue horizontally—to the right above, and left, below, until the whole field was covered.

A spiral wipe can easily be made this way, too. Start with a single line running from the top of the frame straight down to the center. Then widen this, spreading radially from the center, until you have carried the matte completely around, blocking out the whole field.

Fan wipes, incidentally, can be made by animation in this way, too.

In a recent production for which I made wipes, I had this problem: In scene I, the movement of the people was from left to right; in scene 2, the movement was from right to left. If I made a straight wipe, these movements would conflict. How was the transition to be made pleasing? I did it by animating a straight push-off wipe from left to right—but only up to the middle of the frame. Then I revolved the matte front (by animation) around the center of the frame—and finished the wipe from right to left.

In Mae West's "Belle of the 90's." I used a rotary wipe to go from a closeshot of a riverboat's paddle-wheel to the next sequence. Again, the matte was made by animation. Four dark bars animated in, radiating from the center of the frame. These were progressively animated larger and larger, until the scene was wiped off. At the same time, the bars revolved clockwise around the center of the frame. This was done by revolving the entire card around as the bars animated. To simplify the job, you could mark calibrations for the animation of the bars, just outside of the camera-field, and-with the whole layout done on a large disc, you could mark calibrations for revolving the whole. The two sets of calibrations need not be the same, so that the two movementsthe turning of the wine, and the growth of the dark bars-could be made at two different speeds. Simply enlarge the bars one calibration each frame, and at the same time, revolve the whole card one degree. In one of our recent films, we used this type of wipe as a transition between a shot of a girl making a phone call and the party at the other end of the wire: making the wipe from a close-up of the girl's finger dialing the number; as the dial spun, the wipe started and revolved with it.

Especially with these more complicated wipes, it is a very good idea to keep your original two mattes as "master negatives," and to do your printing from dupes of them. In that way, you can cut your mattes to length, secure in the knowledge that if you make a



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In making these mattes, it helps, too,

if you remember that normally the black cards represent scene 2, and the movement of the cards (or black animatians) shows which way scene 2 is going to appear in your completed transitian.

#### WHEELS OF INDUSTRY

Continued from Page 359

New Titles

• It is announced by Bell & Howell Company that a new line of Title-Craft titles is available for movie makers.

These new titles are called "Title-Craft Juniar" and are particularly at-

tractive and leaible.

They have the following distinct advantages: a choice of many beautiful and appropriate all-over backgrounds at the same price as for black backgrounds: careful arrangement of type matter for artistic appearance and legibility; many pictarial backgrounds available at only ten cents mare than the minimum price: fine technical quality in filming.

Specimen "Junior" titles or a camplete set af the many available backgrounds may be seen at most photographic dealers'; also a demonstration film composed of eight or ten titles.

The hand-set Title-Craft titles have been extremely popular, and this new series will undaubtedly meet with equal favor in the lower price field.

Victor Cabinet Projector

 Victor Animatograph Corporation has just introduced a new, enclosed, cabinettype of silent 750-watt projectar. It is believed that the greater eve-appeal and unusual convenience of this unique new projector will win popularity. It is to be known as Victor Model 21 and will probably list at \$185.

Althaugh the projector is extremely compact, measuring only 81/2"x131/4"x161/4", it is equipped with 1600-ft, reel arms. When the full film capacity is utilized, a one-hour presentation may be made without stopping to change film. Smaller reels may be used if desired.



Amana the Model 21's standard equipment items are Pilot Light, Rapid Power Rewind, quick, positive Tilting Device, and a new "Swing-out" type of Lens Mount with side framer, which greatly facilitates threading, framing, and cleaning of the film channel and aperture plate.

The cabinet is finished in natural walnut and appointments are in Antique Silver. Projector is entirely enclosed by the case during operation.

First deliveries will be made around August first.

#### Common-Sense Filtering

Continued from Page 351

black if the filter is dense enough-so the clouds will fairly leap out. The yellow is lightened rather more-even excessively. And, on the other hand, the flesh tints of the girl's face, if we use a heavy filter, will become unnaturally white.

Now let's try a green filter: the yellow will still be rather light; the face-tones will be little changed, except for perhaps a slight darkening; the blue will be virtually unaffected-so we will lose the clouds; but the green foliage will be decidedly lighter.

Briefly, to lighten yellow, and darken blue, we use the yellow filter.

To lighten red and make blue very much darker, we use a red filter.

To lighten green and darken red, we use a green filter.

In other words, the filter lightens its own color, and darkens its complementary colors, and the degree of effect is in ratio to the darker or lighter tint of the filter-color.

The majority of filters sold for amateur use are yellow ones. Too many of them are designated simply by the multiplying factor used to determine the added exposure necessary: that is, 2x, 4x, and so on, which really means 2 times, 4 times, etc. The Wratten yellow filters include the K1, K2, and K3, with also the "Aero 1" and Aero 2, which are slightly tinged with greenish-yellow, designed especially for penetrating the light haze that is always visible from the air.

The principal red filters are the Wratten 23A, A No. 25, and F Na. 29. Several of the leading makers of amateur



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The new instruction booklet contains complete list of film speeds including Color films. This new film data is available to present owners on request. cinemachinery, including Bell & Howell and Victor, have red filters which they designate simply by the multiplying-factor, as, for example, "4x Red."

The outstanding green filters are the Wratten "8" filters lespecially No. 56B) and the new "X" filters. The latter were lately devised for special work in professional still photography, but have become rather popular for amateur photography and cinematography. They must not be confused with the ordinary yellow filters designated by a number followed by the letter x. Strangely enough, the X1, if designated by its multiplying factor, would be called a 5x green!

From all of the above, you can see that for most general use (assuming, of course, Panchromatic film) a yellow filter is indicated except at such times as the specialized effects of a red or green one may be demanded. Therefore, it is good policy to put such a filter-say a Wratten K2, or any good 2x or 3x yellow filter-on your lens and leave it as standard equipment. When you want particularly striking cloud-effects, with the white clouds standing strongly against a dark sky, use either a heavier yellow filter, an orange filter (such as the Wratten "G," which is intermediate between the yellows and reds), or a red filter. As for the green filters, they are best used only when you have a good deal of green in the picture-grass, foliage, etc .- and you want to lighten it.

And—as one last hint—don't expect a filter to do the impossible! Your photography must be good in itself, or no filter in the world can improve it. Morever, especially when you are shooting clouds, the atmospheric conditions must be right. We normally think of the sky as being blue—but often, especially in dry, dusty weather, the sky near the horizon is really a sickly greenish blue, which no filter will darken satisfactorily. Be sure that your sky is a good, clean, strong blue if you want the best filter-effects on cloud scenes!

#### Cine Story-Telling Pays

Continued from Page 358

about this trip, you would want to know, "How many fish did he catch? What kind? Were they good sport? How did he catch them? How did he live—in a hotel, a cobin, or did he camp under canvas, far from civilization? How did he get there—by boat, by car, or by pack-mule? Who went with him? Did he know where to go, or did a guide go with him?

You can answer every one of those questions in film. Done properly, the answer will not only be interesting to your friends and to fishermen in general, but to the same audiences who snoozed through your last vacation epic.

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People who act as though they knew they were being photographed are fatal to any film. They break the continuity of thought you've developed in your audience. Instead of being interested in the picture, the beholder turns his attention to the triple-distilled idiot in front of the lens. Therefore, if you can't be sure that the people around your lens are going to act reasonably natural in the scene, by all means don't waste film on them.

But in the films where people are really necessary — give them something to do! Nine times out of ten, the reason folks are foolish in front of a movie - camera is because they don't

know what to do with themselves: given something to do—if it is merely walking across the scene—they lose most of their camera-fright, and become more or less human once more.

When people figure in a film-story, closeups are vitally necessary. In the Hawaiian film, for instance, the only way you can tell the story of the poi and raw-fish eating episodes is in close-ups. But untrained actors almost always grownervous when a camera is brought sufficiently close for a revealing close-up. This is a problem for the telephoto lens: snap a 2"—or even a 3"—into place, and you can make your close-ups from an un-terrifying distance. Try it.

# Amateur Movie Contest



The annual American Cinematographer Amateur Movie Contest will close this year on November 30. That is, all entries must be in our office on that date.

As usual the members of the American Society of Cinematographers wi'l act as judges.

There will be four outstanding prizes. None worth less than \$150,00.

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It isn't too late to start your picture now if you haven't already done so. It can be in as many reels as you wish, it can be either 16mm or 8mm. Write for more information and Entry Blank.

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